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the director of the laboratory, who has been pursuing investigations with living plague-cultures, fell sick with the plague on January 16. Notwithstanding repeated injections of antipest serum, the patient died on January 20. All persons who had been in contact with the patient and the entire staff of employees of the laboratory immediately received injections of plague serum. Measures have been taken for the complete isolation of the employees of the fort from the shore."

British India.—During the week ended January 9, there were registered in the Bombay Presidency 7,886 cases of plague (with 5,790 deaths); of which 197 cases (169 deaths) occurred in the city of Bombay; 3 cases (2 deaths) in Karachi; 4 cases (3 deaths) in Bhavnagar, and 11 cases (11 deaths) in Broach.

Cholera.

Turkey.—According to Weekly Bulletin No. 3 of January 18, regarding cholera in Syria and Mesopotamia, there were registered on January 11 and 12 in Kerbella 5 cases of cholera (and 5 deaths); on January 9, in Diarbekir, 1 death from cholera.

Death rate of Berlin and other cities.

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended January 16 was again higher than that of the preceding week, amounting, calculated on the year, to 16.9 per thousand of the population, thus being also higher than the rate for the corresponding week of last year in which it amounted to 16.2 per thousand. In spite of this rise in the Berlin rate, however, more than two-thirds of the large German towns showed less favorable figures than this city, the following places having a considerably higher death rate than that of Berlin: viz: Hamburg, Hanover, Düsseldorf, Brunswick, Magdeburg, Dresden, Munich, Carlsruhe, Cologne, Breslau, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. On the other hand, the following cities had a lower rate than Berlin, namely: Charlottenburg (with 16.3), Schöneberg (with 13), Rixdorf (with 11.1); Leipzig, Stuttgart, and Frankfort-on-the-Main. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths among children in the first year of life, the rise in the death rate being mainly due to the increase of mortality among the higher-age classes. The infant death rate amounted to 4.3 per year and mille, being thereby lower than the rate of Munich and Cologne, but somewhat higher than the Hamburg and Leipzig figures. Acute diseases of the respiratory organs showed a slight abatement, causing 62 deaths, and acute intestinal diseases claimed 37 victims. Furthermore, there were registered: 4 deaths from influenza, 5 deaths from cholera, 86 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, and 53 deaths from cancer. Diphtheria caused 16 deaths. Measles claimed 8 victims and 4 persons died of scarlet fever. Finally, 4 persons died by violence.

HAWAII.

Arrival at Honolulu of United States Army transport Logan with case of varioloid on board.

Chief Quarantine Officer Cofer reports, February 4, as follows:

The U. S. transport *Logan* arrived this morning with a case of varioloid on board in the person of a private soldier. The case was

promptly isolated eleven days ago, as soon as the eruption was discovered, and every one on board vaccinated. The case and contact and their effects were removed to the quarantine station, and the quarters occupied by them disinfected by the station force. The ship then sailed for San Francisco.

INDIA.

Report from Calcutta—The plague situation.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Sprague, at Calcutta, reports, January 21, as follows:

Plague is classed by most authors among the tropical diseases, and it has been in recent years fairly closely confined to tropical and sub-tropical countries; but that warmth alone is essential to the occurrence of the disease is negatived by its present existence in the north of India, Kashmir, where, owing to the altitude, the temperature approaches that of the frigid zone, and all the way south to the Madras Presidency, with its mid-tropical climate. It is said to be found among the hill people in greater or less malignancy in all seasons, and by some authorities the disease is considered endemic in this area. It certainly has existed there for many years, although its true nature may not have been recognized.

With improved means of travel this section has been brought into more intimate relations with other communities, in many of which plague has thriven with more virulence than in what may be termed its native habitat.

The following figures would indicate that the seed has not been scattered over entirely unproductive soil:

Deaths from plague.

1900	92,807
1901	283,788
1902	548,315
1903	848,877

During the years included in the above figures every one of the 21 states or provinces of India has been invaded to a greater or less extent. The months of February, March, and April have been credited each year with the largest number of deaths. In the latter weeks of April the decline has begun and continued into July or August, when the death rate has begun gradually to increase and to attain its maximum as before stated.

Plague has been studied in India, so that the lines along which it spreads are now considered characteristic. It generally follows rapidly along trade routes and progresses very slowly in the agricultural districts. Seasonally the epidemics follow with more or less gradual extension the course of preceding years. It is comparatively quiet during the hot weather and the season of rains—July to November. In one district, Saran, it has been noted that while the towns attacked remained almost free during the last half of the year, in the rural districts the disease continued throughout the year.

Great difference of opinion as to the manner in which plague is conveyed from person to person exists among those whose experience gives them authority to speak upon the subject, but all agree that filth, crowding, and ill ventilation play their part, and in the centers